

## **Historic, Archive Document**

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**Ruth Hardy**  
**Wildflower and Fern Nursery**  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Falls Village, Conn.

Mary Sherwood  
Business Manager

South Canaan Road  
U. S. Route No. 7

Tel. Canaan 421-12

**F A L L 1 9 4 7**

All plants are 35 cents each, 3 for \$1.00, 10 for \$3.00, except where otherwise noted. No postage or express charge. Cash, check or money order must accompany all orders. 5% discount per \$25.00.

All of the plants offered in this catalogue are perennials. If you want species you don't see here, write and ask us about them; we might have a few on hand, or know where to get them for you.

**WILDFLOWERS**

**Anemone, False Rue.** *Amonella thalictroides*. Dainty leaves, 3-6 in. tall. White flowers, one of early spring blossoms. Easily grown, partial shade.

**Baneberry, Red.** *Actea rubra*. White feathery blossom cluster, coral red, oval berries; 2-3 ft. Shade or partial shade, damp or dry sites.

**Baneberry, White.** *Actea alba*. Similar to red, as to foliage, but berries white, likened to doll's eyes. Same site conditions and size as the red baneberry, but blooms a little later.

**Bishop's Cap, Mitrewort.** *Mitella diphylla*. Pencil-thin flower stalks with tiny cap-shaped blossoms. April to May, 8-16 in. Good ground cover and rock garden plant. Easy to grow.

**Bloodroot.** *Sanguinaria canadensis*. Snow-white large flowers with golden centers; plant 8 in. tall. Heart-shaped leaves persist all summer. Dry, to slightly moist neutral soil, shade.

**Bluebells of Scotland,** *Campanula rotundifolia*. Grows almost anywhere, very hardy, easy to raise. Dainty, very attractive little blue bell. 1-1½ ft. tall. Prefers sun.

**Boneset, Thoroughwort.** *Eupatorium perfoliatum*. Wet soil plant, 2-4 ft. tall. White terminal blossoms, interesting leaves seem to grow through the stems. Old medicinal plant.

**Canada Mayflower, Wild Lily-of-the-Valley.** *Maianthemum canadense*, A small shade-loving plant.

**DON'T PICK WILDFLOWERS, GROW THEM**

The leaves are usually heart-shaped at the base, the flowers are white, on small spikes which look feathery. The attractive berries are yellowish-white spotted with brown from Aug. to Sept., turning a translucent rich red Sept. to Oct. Prefer slightly acid soil.

**Cardinal Flower.** *Lobelia cardinalis*. The brightest red in nature are these blossoms. Prefers damp soil and sun, but will grow on drier or shadier sites. 2-4 ft. tall Fertilized by humming birds. Seed and rootstock regeneration.

**Clintonia, Bluebead.** *Clintonia borealis*. Leaves 5 to 8 in., often flat on ground, shiny, resembles showy orchis leaves. Blossoms yellow, in terminal cluster 6 to 16 in. above ground, bell-shaped,  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. long, in June. Striking true blue berry Aug. to Sept. Most shade, acid soil.

**Cohosh, Blue.** *Caulophyllum thalictroides*. Compound leaf at top of long stem, 1-3 ft. tall. Small yellow flowers, intensely blue berries. Shade. Good fern companion.

**Columbine, Wild.** *Aquilegia canadensis*. Excellent rock garden plant, but grows almost anywhere. Red and yellow spurred flowers, stay in blossom several weeks. 1-1 $\frac{1}{2}$  ft.

**Culver's Root, Speedwell.** *Veronica virginica*. Leaves 3 to 6 in. long, whorled. Blossoms in white spiked clusters, 2 to 9 in. long, from July to Sept. Attains 2 to 7 ft. height. Good for perennial border. Likes sun or semi-shade. Will grow where damp.

**Foamflower, False Mitrewort.** *Tiarella cordifolia*. Attractive ground cover for shady places. Runner roots, leaves maple-shaped, blossoms in white feathery spikes from May to June. Leaves 4 to 8 in. high, blossom spikes 4 to 6 in. higher.

**Forget-me-not.** *Myosotis scorpioides*. This garden escape is now considered a wild flower of our swamps and streams. The blossoms are  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. broad on loose, curving racemes, light blue with yellow eyes. Requires moist soil and sun.

**Gentian, Bottle.** *Gentiana andrewsii*. Several bottle-shaped, intense blue flowers in terminal and leaf-base clusters. Perennial. Damp, partial shade, also like sun if soil wet. 12-18 in. tall.

**Gentian, Fringed.** *Gentiana crinita*. A biennial, so at present, taking orders only for seed, which are available in late fall. 50-cents per package. The fringed gentian prefers sunny moist, sweet soil.

**Ginger, Wild.** *Asarum canadense*. Heart-shaped leaf, with odd brown-purple blossoms close to the soil. Ginger odor when handled. Moist shade.

**Goldenthread.** *Coptis trifolia*. The shiny, dark green, evergreen leaves, 1 to 2 in. broad, close to the ground, form an attractive ground cover in shady sites with acid soil. Small white flowers on very slender stems, 3 to 6 in. high. Creeping, fine, gold-colored roots.

**Grass of Parnassus.** *Parnassia caroliniana*. Waxy leaves, white flower with green veins. Damp soil in open sun. 6-10 in.

**Hepatica, Round-lobed.** *Hepatica triloba*. Earliest flower of spring. Leaves persist in winter, liver-lobe shaped. Good as rock garden or indoor terrarium plants. 3-6 in.

**Hepatica, Sharplobed.** *Hepatica acutiloba*. Similar to Round-lobed Hepatica, but leaves have sharp points, and the blossoms are light lilac to white.

**Herb Robert.** *Geranium robertianum*. Perennial. Ornamental leaves with ruddy stems, aromatic. Small pink blossoms persistent through summer. Partial shade, damp sites or rocks.

**Iris, Blue Flag.** *Iris versicolor*. Damp to drier ground, 2-3 ft. Rich blue flowers. Roots can be divided.

**Iris, Crested Dwarf.** *Iris cristata*. Leaf narrow, tapers at both ends; 4 to 9 in. long, ½ in wide. Flowers very light violet, the broad outer divisions crested with 3 raised parallel flutings, the middle one being orange. Likes dry to moist, acid soil, partial shade to full sun. Attractive in wild garden or rock garden.

**Iris, Lake Dwarf.** *Iris lacustris*. Smaller than the Crested Iris, and narrower leaves. Native to gravelly northern lake shores. Semi-shade to full sun. Blossoms in May.

**Iris, Vernal.** *Iris verna*. A tiny iris, with grass-like leaves up to 7 in. long. Blossoms violet-blue with orange centers. Shade to semi-shade. Good in rock gardens.

**Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Indian Turnip.** *Arisaema triphyl- lum*. An interesting hooded plant, a favorite with children. Damp to drier shady spots. Orange-red berries. Try forcing bulbs indoors. Plant them the same as paper narcissus bulbs, in a bowl with stones and water, and add a little soil. They grow about an inch a day once they start. Indoor Jacks make excellent Christmas gifts.

**Joe Pye Weed.** *Eupatorium purpureum*. Large, moist soil plant, 3-7 ft. tall, raspberry-red blossoms in top clusters. Open sun, bloom in August. Good near pools.



**Lily, Meadow.** *Lilium canadense*. Orange lilies with purple-brown spots inside. One to seven or more blossoms, 2-4 ft. tall. Open sun, moist to drier soil. Blossoms said to have most graceful curves of any flower.

**Lobelia, Blue.** *Lobelia syphilitica*. Similar to cardinal flower in form and growth requirements, but the blossoms are a handsome purplish blue.

**Marsh Marigold, Cowslip.** *Caltha palustris*. Leaves round or kidney-shaped, edible raw or cooked. Blossoms bright yellow, similar to buttercup but larger, from April to May. Moist soil essential, and prefers sun. Good around ponds and in brooks.

**Mayapple, Mandrake.** *Podophyllum peltatum*. Umbrella-like leaves form elevated ground carpet. Waxy, white flowers underneath, produce apple-like berry. 1-2 ft. tall.

**New England Aster.** *Aster Novae-angliae*. A tall, sturdy wild aster with terminal clusters of many-rayed purple blossoms. From 2-6 ft. tall, in open sun, neutral to sweet, even poor soil.

**Rue, Early Meadow.** *Thalictrum dioicum*. A dainty, slender plant with scalloped leaves and small greenish-white flowers in terminal clusters. Similar to Tall Meadow Rue but smaller. Good company for medium-sized ferns. Likes a little shade, but will grow in the sun.

**Rue, Tall Meadow.** *Thalictrum polygamum*. Misty white flowers, tall slender branches. Prefers damp meadows, but grows almost anywhere. Excellent in with large ferns.

**Snakeroot, Black.** Black Cohosh. *Cimicifuga racemosa*. A very large and striking woodland plant, excellent to mix with large ferns, or as a background. Compound, sharply-tooted leaves form rather heavy foliage that attains 3 to 7 ft. height. Feathery white flowers in 6 to 20 in. branched, wand-like spikes.

**Solomon's Seal, False.** *Smilacina racemosa*. White fluffy blossoms at tip of stem, producing white-and-red, then red translucent berries. 1-3 ft., shade or sun.

**Solomon's Seal, Giant.** *Polygonatum commutatum*. Very graceful, 2-4 ft. tall, bell-like blossoms pendulous under the leaves, large purple-blue berries. Partial shade to sun.

**Solomon's Seal, True.** *Polygonatum biflorum*. Very similar to the Giant variety, but smaller, and likes more shade. 1-2 ft., blooms May to June, dark blue berries in early fall.

**Star Grass, Yellow.** *Hypoxis hirsuta*. Grass-like leaves; flower stems arise in the center, 2 to 6 in.

high, bearing one to 7, deep yellow,  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. blossoms. Likes dry soil in sun or semi-shade.

**Trillium, Painted.** *Trillium undulatum*. White, with crimson stripe. 8-16 in. Likes shade and borders of woodlands, and acid soil.

**Trillium, Red Wakerobin.** *Trillium erectum*. Leaves broad and abruptly pointed. Flowers a maroon red, petals  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. long, on a reclining stem, blooming in April to May. Dark red seed pods. Shady sites; prefers damp soil but will grow on upland soil.

**Trillium, Snow.** *Trillium grandiflorum*. Blossoms late May to June, white turning to pink. 10-18 in. high, petals 2-3 in. long. Moist, partial shade, good neutral garden soil. Excellent in flower borders, occurs in open woodlands.

**Twayblade.** *Liparis loeselii*. Tiny orchid of damp soil and shade. Blossoms up a stem 3-6 in. tall, two basal leaves similar to pink lady's slipper. Not a conspicuous plant, but interesting to orchid fans and wild garden hobbyists.

**Violet, Bird-foot.** *Viola pedata*. The leaves are finely divided. The blossoms are the largest of the violets, from 1 to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. across; light violet with orange-tipped stamens. The plant grows from 4 to 10 in. in height, and insists upon dry sandy soil and open sun.

**Violet, Canada.** *Viola canadensis*. One of our tallest violets, sweet scented, light purple outside, white inside. Partial shade to sun; 5-15 in. tall.

**Violet, Downy Yellow.** *Viola pubescens*. Leaves are downy beneath, golden yellow flowers, plant 6-12 in. tall. Dry shady sites, rock gardens.

**Violet, Palmate-leaved.** *Viola palmata*. Unusually deep lobed leaves for a violet plant. Flowers bright light violet and fairly large. Dry ground, shade or sun.

**Violet, Smooth Yellow.** *Viola scabriuscula*. Two to four stems from one rootstock. More slender and not quite as tall as the Downy Yellow. Blossoms April to early May. Prefers shade.

**Violet, Yellow Round-Leaved.** *Viola rotundifolia*. A modest small violet, light yellow veined with madder purple, April to May. Leaves round to long heart shaped, about 1 in. broad at blossom time, expanding to 2 to 4 inches and flat on the ground later. Cool, damp to dry shady situations; often good ground cover where other things won't grow.

## FERNS

- Beech Fern, Broad.** *Dryopteris hexagonoptera*. Winged woodfern. Triangular fronds. Shade or partial shade, damp to dryer sites, neutral soil. Height 12-18 in.
- Beech Fern, Narrow.** *Phegopteris polypodioides*. Triangle-shaped fronds, 3 to 10 in. long. Succession of fronds all season, only one frond present at a time. Creeping rootstocks. Bottom pair of pinnae grow downward and outward. Moist to fairly dry sites; prefers shade, but will grow in sun if not too dry.
- Bladder, Berry.** *Cystopteris bulbifera*. Brookside, damp shade. Graceful, slender fern, 2-3 ft., half reclining.
- Bladder, Fragile, Brittle Fern.** *Cystopteris fragilis*. More delicate than above, and about one third in size. Dormant in August. An early fern, loves rocks.
- Chain Fern.** *Woodwardia areolata*. Medium-sized fern, prefers moist sites, either sun or shade, has chain-like root development.
- Christmas Fern.** *Polystichum acrostichoides*. Evergreen fronds, up to 20 inches long. Likes good shade, enough moisture. Plant the crowns even with ground surface. Indoor boxes.
- Cinnamon Fern.** *Osmunda cinnamomea*. One of our largest ferns, attaining 3-5 ft. Husky fronds, attractive, cinnamon-colored fertile frond arises from center of the plant. Excellent background. Shade or semi-shade, 50 cents ea.
- Clinton Fern.** *Dryopteris clintoniana*. An evergreen, preferring shade or partial shade. Attains 2-3 ft. Likes slightly acid to neutral soil.
- Crested Shield Fern.** *Dryopteris cristata*. Usually found on hummocks in partially shaded bogs. 1-3 ft., the sterile fronds evergreen.
- Evergreen Woodfern.** *Dryopteris marginalis*. Leathery, evergreen, dark blue-green. Deep shade, likes loose stones in the soil. 2 ft. tall. Indoor boxes.
- Interrupted Fern.** *Osmunda claytoniana*. One of our large native ferns, often confused with cinnamon fern. Spore cases occur along center of fertile fronds, giving interrupted appearance, 50 cents ea.
- Lady Fern.** *Athyrium filix-femina*. An easy fern to grow, 2-3 ft., partial shade or full shade. Dry or damp soil. Fronds grow in circular tufts from large rootstock.
- Maidenhair Fern.** *Adiantum pedatum*. Slender, wiry stems, topped by delicate, unique fronds, each tiny part like a ginkgo tree leaf. Likes rotted hardwood leaves, shade.



**Marsh Fern.** *Dryopteris thelypteris*. Medium-sized fern, 10-20 in. Very upright, likes moist meadow lands.

**New York Fern.** *Dryopteris noveboracensis*. Medium size, noticeable tapering at both ends of the fronds. Prefers shade, but will grow in sun, 1-2 ft. tall. Damp or dry sites.

**Oak Fern.** *Phegopteris dryopteris*. Small, triangular fronds, 4 to 6 in. wide and high, yellow green. Likes shady pine, hemlock and spruce woods. Good ground cover under larger ferns. Spreading root stock, new fronds all summer.

**Ostrich Fern.** *Pteritis nodulosa*. Tall, plume-like fronds in almost a perfect circle. Does very well under cultivation, loves lawns under tall trees.

**Polypody Fern.** *Polypodium vulgare*. A small evergreen fern, used in indoor dishes. 3-6 in. Shade. Forms mats on rocks.

**Purple Cliff Brake.** *Pellaea atropurpurea*. Leathery-leaved, long, slender, blue-green fronds. Prefers rock niches, especially limestone. Evergreen, at its best in winter. 4-10 in. long. Pinnules heart-shaped at base.

**Rattlesnake Fern.** *Botrychium virginianum*. Occurs in dry, open woods. Triangular fronds, finely cut, delicate. 1-2 ft. tall.

**Royal Fern.** *Osmunda regalis*. Either moist or dry sites, sun or shade, but best grown in partial shade, where some dampness. Graceful, wide spreading, 2-3 ft. tall.

**Sensitive Fern.** *Onoclea sensibilis*. One of the easiest to grow, good cover for bare spots, 8-16 in., spreads rapidly.

**Spinulose Fern.** *Dryopteris spinulose*. Medium size. Extensively used with cut flowers. Shade to partial shade.

**Spleenwort, Ebony.** *Asplenium platyneuron*. Shaded rocks, especially limestone. Excellent for indoor dishes. Evergreen sterile fronds, 4-8 inches. Sun or shade.

**Spleenwort.** Silvery *Athyrium acostichoides*. Fruit dots on back of fronds have a silvery sheen. Two to 3 ft. tall. Roots spread moderately. Rich, moist woods sites; likes vicinity of shaded streams and swamps.

**Walking Fern.** *Camptosorus rhizophyllus*. Has a fascinating way of producing new plants by growing from the leaf tips. Some shade, prefers limestone rocks. 4-12 in. We send small piece of limestone with each plant, place under roots.

**Woodsia, Common, Blunt-Lobed Woodsia.** *Woodsia obtusa*. Bright sun to partial shade. Usually occurs on rocks. 6-20 in.

**Powdered Limestone.** 20 cents per pound.

## CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND DECORATIONS



**Wreaths**, made of balsam, cones, Christmas berries.

Round, 12 inches across .....	\$1.50
Basket-shaped, 12 inches .....	2.00

†**Spray Boxes**, for making your own Christmas decorations. Contents: branches of balsam white pine, and spruce; sprays of red cedar and arbor vitae with berries; alder or birch cones\*; bouquets of Christmas berries, or bittersweet berries\*; wired pine, or black spruce, or Norway spruce cones in clusters of 3\*; pieces of birch bark. We have three sizes of collections, as follows:

25-piece assortment (*choice of one kind)	\$2.00
40-piece assortment (*choice of one kind)	3.00
60-piece assortment of everything above ....	5.00

†**Cones**, selected, wired for decorating:

White pine, 10 cents ea. or 3 per .....	.25
White pine, one dozen .....	1.00
Black spruce, 10 cents ea., or 3 per .....	.25
Black spruce, one dozen .....	1.00
Norway spruce, 20 cents ea., 3 per .....	.50
Norway spruce, one dozen .....	2.00

†**Winter Bouquet of Assorted Seed Pods** ..... .50

Stems about 12 in. or more. Attractive used alone, or with Spray Box evergreens.

**White Birch Bark**, approx. 1 square foot ..... .25

### **Fireplace Kindling.**

Pine Cones, about 3 doz. per bag .....	.50
White pine faggots, bundle with red ribbon	.25
Cedar faggots, bundle with red ribbon .....	.25

**Partridgeberries**, about 3 doz., with runners and moss. Fill your own bowls ..... .50

**Cone Sprays**, for door or under bell. Made of balsam, and a variety of pine cones ..... 1.00

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†(When ordering cones, or winter bouquets, state whether you want, silver, gold or natural.)

No orders west of Mississippi or south of Washington after Dec. 5th. No eastern mail orders accepted after Dec. 13th postmark.